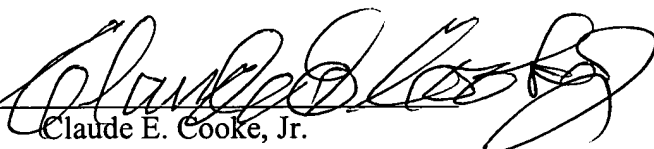


rejection is respectfully traversed. Applicants have submitted as part of their response a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 5,818,583. The Examiner's rejection is therefore moot.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner expeditiously allow this case to issue.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0383 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17, particularly extension-of-time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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